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ABSTRACT

(Fig. 2)

- 5 In the preferred embodiment, the invention provides a modified Shortest Path First routing algorithm for use in a heterogeneous network. The routing algorithm is modified to identify bi-lingual network nodes as it calculates shortest paths. Once a node has been identified as bi-lingual, this information is carried over into subsequent path entries created by the routing algorithm. This arrangement reduces the computational burden on the routing algorithm when identifying bi-lingual routers. The algorithm may be modified to enable the use of an
- 10 encapsulation capability identifier to indicate the encapsulation capability of bi-lingual routers, and the algorithm may be modified to use the encapsulation capability identifier in the calculation of the shortest paths.

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